FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

27 JANUARY 1987

ICO Summit Conference in Kuwait

Kuwait radio and other Arab media provided live coverage of the opening session in which speeches were made by the Moroccan prime minister, the Kuwaiti amir, the king of Jordan, the presidents of Pakistan and Senegal, and the ICO and UN secretaries general. Kuwaiti Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, the conference chairman, told the assembled leaders that the Iran-Iraq war is at the forefront of the Islamic world's preoccupations, stressing the "vital need" to intensify efforts to end this "hemorrhage." He also appealed for world cooperation against terrorism, though he emphasized the need for "honest differentiation" between terrorism and the right to defend a homeland and recover usurped rights. UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar urged the conference to search for a "new way" to end the Iran-Iraq war, pointing out the futility of being content with issuing appeals for peace. He called for arbitration by a neutral side to determine responsibility for starting the war, adding that the belligerents must commit themselves to accepting its judgment.

Jordan's King Husayn likewise emphasized the need for action to end the Iran-Iraq war during a 27 January speech reported by KUNA. He urged the conferees to propose an immediate cease-fire as a prelude to a settlement of the conflict, warning that things have reached a "critical stage." Husayn criticized Iran for boycotting the conference, asserting that its absence "cannot be justified."

On the sidelines of the conference, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat held meetings with Husayn and with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak 26 January, KUNA reported, noting that this was the first time the PLO and Jordanian leaders had met since 'Arafat's visit to Amman one year ago. Palestinian sources told the UAE's *Al-Ittihad* that the 'Arafat-Husayn meeting in Kuwait will lead to a restoration of PLO-Jordanian dialogue and cooperation, WAKH noted. The PLO leader expressed satisfaction with the results of the meeting and said it shows that both sides wish to resume contacts in the near future, the sources disclosed.

The UAE agency also cited a "responsible Arab diplomatic source" who revealed that Arab foreign ministers have held "successful" discussions on the idea of holding an Arab summit conference in Kuwait after the conclusion of the ICO summit. The source said the ministers have agreed to hold the Arab summit in Kuwait to study the Arab situation in its entirity

An IRNA report on the ICO summit said the conference opened amid mounting concern about the future of Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, adding that conferees are likely to discuss the possible fall of the Iraqi leader, who is unable to attend because he is preoccupied with the military situation. In Libya, Tripoli television spoke of an "atmosphere of pessimism" at the summit, which is attended by Egypt's "kneeling regime" and other "symbols of treason." JANA's political editor reaffirmed Libya's view that Egypt's attendance is "illegal," the television added.

Iran-Iraq War

An Iranian military spokesman stated 27 January that Iran has stopped shelling "economic and military installations in Iraqi cities" since Iraq "ceased its attacks on Iran's residential areas," according to Tehran radio. The spokesman vowed swift retaliation in the event of renewed Iraqi aggression. Iran had fired missiles at Basra the previous day, according to IRNA.

Iran announced another offensive on the southern front the night of 26 January, stating in a communique broadcast by Tehran radio that its forces advanced 2 km along the Basra-Shalamcheh road. Iranian forces reportedly killed or wounded another 1,200 Iraqis and captured an Iraqi brigade headquarters. An Iraqi field commander claimed his country's forces have contained the recent Iranian offensive in the III Army Corps sector, INA reported 27 January. The commander described the Iranian position as "unstable" following "heavy losses" in recent fighting.

Lebanon

Anglican Church envoy Terry Waite is reported to be under "house arrest" in Lebanon after failing to reach a quick agreement on the release of U.S. hostages, KUNA reported 26 January. Anglican church officials in London are "concerned" by the envoy's reported detention and are making "urgent inquiries" into Waite's whereabouts, according to a 27 January London *Press Association* report. However, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon cited "informed security sources" as saying Waite is keeping "in continuous touch" with his guards through an intermediary. The radio attributed Waite's week-long disappearance to the negotiations he is holding with the kidnappers of U.S. hostages Terry Anderson and Thomas Sutherland. Commenting on the hostage-taking in Lebanon, Tehran radio cited a statement attributed to Terry Waite asserting that "hostage-taking groups are not under the influence of any foreign state, including Iran." The commentary accused United States of blaming Iran for the spate of kidnappings in Lebanon, and claimed the Americans are labeling Iran a "terrorist" country in retaliation for "diplomatic setbacks" and "attempts to establish relations with Iran" as well as for "the recent victories by the Islamic forces."

Israel and the Arabs

Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres told EEC foreign ministers in Brussels that Israel, Egypt, Jordan, and Morocco have agreed on the need to reach the negotiations table "without preconditions," *Ma'ariv* reported.

Syrian Espionage in Turkey

Two Arabs arrested in Turkey last year have admitted involvement in espionage activities on behalf of Syria, the Istanbul paper *Bulvar* reported, adding that they admitted gathering information on Turkish and U.S. military installations in the country.

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Revolutionary Council Decree on General Amnesty
LD251755 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 25 Jan 87

[Text] The Secretariat of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium reveals that an extraordinary session of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium was held yesterday afternoon at the Golkhana Palace, the revolutionary headquarters. It discussed the realization of the policy of national reconciliation in accordance with the decisions and resolutions of the broad and extraordinary plenum of December 1986 of the PDPA Central Committee and the announcement dated 3 January 1987 of the Revolutionary Council concerning national reconciliation.

The extraordinary session of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium, following the line of the address by PDPA Central Committee General Secretary Comrade Najib to the citizens of free and independent Afghanistan based on the message of the PDPA Central Committee, the DRA Revolutionary Council, the Council of Ministers, the DRA National Front, the Council of Ulema and Religious Leaders, and the Society of Mothers of the Martyrs of the Path of Revolution, comprehensively discussed the general amnesty of prisoners and approved separate decrees in connection with the general amnesty on the occasion of the announcement of national reconciliation concerning the release of Armed Forces personnel from prison.

As has been brought to public attention, the second congress of the National Front and the meetings of the Supreme Council of National Reconciliation discussed the question of the speedy issuance of a decree by the DRA Revolutionary Council concerning a general amnesty in connection with national reconciliation. Today, once again, in order to realize the aspirations of the toiling people of Afghanistan, the party and state express readiness to redeem their pledges concerning national reconciliation. The decree of the Revolutionary Council concerning a general amnesty, declares:

Decree No 272, dated 25 January 1987, Kabul city:

Concerning a general amnesty on the occasion of the announcement of national reconciliation:

The DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium, for the purpose of realizing the policy of national reconciliation; an end to the war, bloodshed, and fratricide; for the maintenance of peace and nationwide security for all nationalities, tribes, and clans; realizing the well-being and tranquility of the people; the equal participation of all sincere and patriotic Afghans of the country in the cause of the independent, progressive, and democratic development of Afghanistan and the building of a new life; the forgiveness of the crimes of certain prisoners in light of the decisions of the extraordinary broad plenum of December 1986 of the PDPA Central Committee; and the announcement of the DRA Revolutionary Council dated 3 January 1987 concerning the national reconciliation in Afghanistan, in accordance with the orders of Article 43 of the DRA Basic Principles, approves:

Article 1:

Offences committed as a result of activities by Afghans, both outside and inside the country, against the DRA will be disregarded, including those by the heads of groups and by members of various opposition political forces against the state. They will not be punished for their past actions committed before 31 December 1986 provided they do not resume hostile activities against the DRA.

Article 2

The remaining terms of imprisonment of the following convicted persons who have committed crimes against the internal and external security of the country, will be pardoned:

1. All prisoners who have been imprisoned for up to 5 years, without consideration of the time of their conviction or their time in prison;
2. those who have been sentenced to 7 years imprisonment and who have served 4 years or more of the sentence;
3. all female prisoners without consideration of their time in prison or the duration of their sentence;
4. all male prisoners who have not reached age 18 at the time of their committing the crime, without consideration of the duration of sentence or the time in prison;
5. all male prisoners who are more than 60 years old, without consideration of their sentence or the time in prison;
6. all male prisoners who are ill with incurable disease in accordance with the opinion of an authorized medical commission, without consideration of the type of crime, the duration of sentence or time in prison.

Article 3

The DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium will pardon all those sentenced to imprisonment who have committed crimes against the internal and external security of the country and who are not included under Article 2 of this decree, on the basis of proposals by peace jirgahs [assemblies] and the Supreme Council of National Reconciliation and in the event of a pledge by the convicted on the nonresumption of antistate activities against Afghanistan which are guaranteed by the peace jirgahs.

Article 4

The pursuance and circulation of all undecided files under investigation of those persons defined under items 3 and 6 of Article 2 of this decree who have committed crimes against the internal and external security of the country up to 31 December 1986 should be abandoned.

Article 5

If the persons included in Article 2 of this decree, in addition to imprisonment, have been sentenced to pay fines or the compensation of damage, and are subject to release on bail or the presentation of credible legal guarantees, they should be released.

If the convicted cannot pay the bail, they must pay it within 7 years in installments.

Article 6

Articles 2 and 4 of this decree, except in the case of those persons with incurable diseases, does not apply in the case of those persons who have committed the crimes of spying, terrorism, and bombing and whose cases come under Articles 175, 176, 179; paragraph 1, Article 192; paragraph 1, Article 206; and paragraph 5, Article 305 of the penal code and Article 8 of penal code of crimes against combat readiness; Articles 105 and 115 of the bill of military crimes of the year 1948; and Article 17 of the military crimes law.

Article 7

Those persons who are pardoned in accordance with the articles of this decree, are entitled to all the rights of DRA citizens without prejudice.

Article 8

Implementation of this decree is within the authority of the following organs:

1. With regard to persons defined under Article 2 of this decree: A commission comprising the deputy head of the extraordinary commissions of national reconciliation as chairman, and representatives of the Ministries of State Security, Internal Affairs, the Special Revolutionary Court, and the Special Revolutionary Prosecutor's Office.

2. With regard to those persons defined under Article 4 of this decree: The organs of investigation of the courts and their relevant prosecutor offices where the files are in process.

Article 9

The duration of validity of Decree No 47, dated 29 May 1986 of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium on pardoning the crimes of persons who have evaded service in the ranks of the Armed Forces, shall be extended from the expiration date, that, 28 November 1986, to 16 July 1987.

Article 10

This decree is enforced from the date of approval and should be published in the official gazette and the mass media.

[Signed] Acting President of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium Haji Mohammad Chamkani

Reconciliation 'Defenders' Explain Policy Aims

BK270857 Hong Kong AFP in English 0825 GMT 27 Jan 87

[Text] Islamabad, Jan 26 (AFP) — Three hundred members of Afghanistan's ruling Communist Party have been sent into a province on the country's border in a bid to explain the government's current peace proposals, the official Radio Kabul said in a broadcast monitored here, without naming the area involved.

The seven-year-old war between the Soviet-backed government forces and rebel groups has been particularly intense along Afghanistan's southern and western borders with Pakistan and Iran.

The broadcast said 300 "Defenders of the Revolution" would explain the aims of the Afghan Government's policy of national reconciliation. It said the group was seen off at the Kabul Airport by the party's Kabul chief Zahur Razemjo.

Moslem rebels based in the northern Pakistani city of Peshawar and in Tehran have rejected the regime's declaration of a unilateral ceasefire and its offer to them to join a government of national unity.

Over 4,000 Return After Cease-Fire Announced

LD270634 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0427 GMT 27 Jan 87

[Text] Kabul, January 26, BAKHTAR — Another armed group consisting of 186 persons headed by Abdul-Latif and Ramazan positively responded to the call of the party and state of the DRA for ending bloodshed in the country and returned to the folds of their families in Faryab Province, north of the country.

In a grand meeting held on the ocassion in Dowlatabad, centre of Faryab Province one of the members of the armed group on behalf of their colleagues pledged to contribute practically in ensuring nation-wide peace and tranquillity in the country.

Since the announcement of the policy of national reconciliation and ceasefire (January 15, 1987) by the party and state of the DRA, more than 4,000 armed persons earlier engaged in anti-state activities expressed their full cooperation with the party and state of the DRA.

President Delivers 'Republic Day' Address
BK241051 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 0917 GMT 24 Jan 87

["Text of President's message to be broadcast to the nation on the eve of Republic Day 1987"]

[Text] On the eve of our 38th Republic Day tomorrow, I extend to you all, my countrymen, my most cordial greetings and warm wishes.

Republic Day reminds us of the lofty ideals of socialism, secularism, and democracy we set for ourselves. It is also an occasion to rededicate ourselves to the high values of justice, liberty, and equality, we solemnly resolved to secure to all the citizens of the republic.

On this sacred day, my thoughts go to those men and women who went through untold sufferings and made tremendous sacrifices to liberate the country from foreign domination. I pay my respectful homage to their hallowed memory.

It is the foremost duty of every citizen to maintain the unity and defend the integrity of the nation. Our hard won freedom has to be protected at all costs and the forces of disunity and disruption have to be defeated in their designs. Since I spoke to you on this occasion last year, there has been an escalation in violence in some parts of the country. Communal and divisive forces are threatening to weaken the fabric of our secular society. Our democratic system and federal structure provide the necessary mechanism for people to voice their genuine grievances and seek peaceful solutions. Timely action should be taken to look into the grievances and take remedial action. We should not allow an atmosphere of distrust to develop.

On an occasion like this we should dispassionately take stock of our successes and failures and move forward with hope and determination. Over the past 6 years, the economy has grown at 5 percent or higher. Despite presistent drought our agriculture has demonstrated a remarkable resilience, and food grain production has crossed the 150 million tons mark. The country has large stocks of foodgrains which ensure food security. Industrial growth has been buoyant thanks to the dynamism of the new industries. But, at the same time there are certain areas of concern which require our attention like population growth, unemployment, prices, and some persisting social evils. It is not the government alone nor the people alone who can effectively deal with these problems. It requires the combined efforts of the government and the people to bring these problems under control.

The real benefits of development can be had in the long run only if we tackle our population growth effectively. In this task the active participation and cooperation of the people have to be enlisted. Family welfare should be developed into a mass movement. Social and attitudinal changes have to be brought about through sustained endeavours. Voluntary organisations have to supplement the efforts of the government in this regard.

The country is facing a gigantic unemployment problem. The government has taken several measures to generate more employment opportunities both in the urban and rural areas, but the task is so stupendous that some more innovative steps will be needed in the coming years. Since independence, we have reversed the ratio of those living above and below the poverty line. Instead of two-thirds, now about 36 percent of our rural population is living below the poverty line.

The programmes for the poor have been substantially stepped up in recent years. The structure of the society in rural areas is such that the poor are in a highly vulnerable position. They have to be saved from exploitation. It is therefore necessary to have massive programs for the alleviation of poverty and ensure that every rupee that is provided for these programs confers the intended benefits on the beneficiaries. It is of utmost importance to simultaneously keep a check on prices.

Acceleration of industrial growth is essential for our economic development. The balanced growth of agriculture and industry and the production of mass consumption goods of high quality at reasonable prices must remain a central theme of our policies. We should take note of the rise in trade deficit from rupees 5318 crores during the previous year to rupees 8616 crores in 1985-86. Exports have started showing a rising trend. We should make sustained efforts to wipe out the trade deficit. I hope our industry will show the necessary dynamism to respond to the needs of the economy.

The directive principles of state policy enjoin upon every government the obligation to secure a system which may provide children with opportunities to develop in a healthy manner and in conditions of freedom and dignity. Children and youth are to be protected against exploitation and moral and material abandonment. In this area, though the country has made commendable progress, there is still great scope for accelerating our efforts to reach the desired goal. Children and youth should be safeguarded from the evil influences of casteism and communalism. They should be enabled to develop an egalitarian outlook and contribute to orderly social change and national reconstruction.

We should also keep in focus our obligation to promote the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of the people including the scheduled castes and schedules tribes and other backward classes.

Women have always been given a highly respectable place in our society. Though during the last 4 decades a great deal has been done to curb the social evils like dowry women are subjected to, there is still much more to be done to secure for them their rightful place in our society as equal partners in our progress and prosperity.

In a country where for centuries the people have set for themselves high spiritual and moral values, it is unfortunate that with the advent of economic progress some people have found it convenient to abandon these values. Adulteration of food and drugs, blackmarketing, tax evasion, and corruption have become serious problems in our society. We must tackle them with determination so that the fruits of progress will be avilable to one and all equitably.

India is the largest democracy in the world. We have a significant role to play in international affairs. We have consistently taken

a bold stand on international issues and raise our voice in favour of the weak, the oppressed, and the exploited. We have tried to focus world attention on the need for nuclear disarmament as also for imposing mandatory sanctions against the racist regime of South Africa.

The recent visit of the Soviet leader, Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, has reaffirmed our friendship with the USSR. We appreciate the sincerity and steadfastness of the Soviet Union. Ours is, perhaps, the best example of bilateral relationship and enduring cooperation. In the true spirit of nonalignment, India seeks close and friendly relations with all nations, irrespective of blocs and political systems. We shall continue to work for greater cohesion in the Nonaligned Movement and for greater understanding with our immediate neighbours.

The security of the nation is our foremost concern. Our Armed Forces have been maintaining constant vigil on our borders, along our long coastline and in our national airspace. They have been keeping in step with modern defence technology and have been upgrading their skills to face any challenge. They have also assisted civil authorities in natural calamities and in our hours of needs. They are a symbol of national unity. They deserve the nation's deep appreciation for their high morale, discipline, and dedicated service.

To conclude, I would like to say, my brothers and sisters, that the Constitution has enjoined upon me as president the duty to preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution and the law. I have at all times done my best to discharge this duty with devotion. I have endeavoured my utmost to maintain and strengthen the unity of India.

Let all religions flourish, all cultures blossom, and all regions thrive. But it is of paramount importance for us to remember that we are one country, one nation, one people. To survive as such, we have to rise above all narrow considerations and take pride in our common identity and single entity as Indians. We share a common destiny and must strive to build a brighter future for posterity.

Jai Hind! [Hail India].

Delhi Reports New Defense Minister Named

BK241609 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1540 GMT 24 Jan 87

[Text] Here is a flash: Mr Vishwanath Pratap Singh will be the new defense minister. A spokesman of Rashtrapati Bhawan [President's house] said a short while ago that he has been appointed by the president on the advise of the prime minister. Pending further arrangements, the prime minister will look after finance. The minister for petroleum and natural gas, Mr Brahm Dutt, will be minister of state for finance in addition to his present charge.

The changes will come into force with immediate effect.

REUTER Cited on Attack on Embassy in Peru

BK270315 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 27 Jan 87

[Text] In the Peruvian capital Lima, suspected leftist guerrillas have attacked the Indian Embassy, killing two Peruvian policemen posted outside. Police authorities said a group of assailants threw dynamite at the embassy from a passing car and then opened fire with machineguns. An Indian Embassy official told REUTER news agency that the explosion shattered the back window of the ambassador's car but caused no damage to the embassy building.

Peru's President Arrives; Views Embassy Attack

BK270911 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 27 Jan 87

[Text] The president of Peru, Dr Alan Garcia, has said that his country can benefit greatly from India's experience and expertise in various fields. Addressing a news conference in New Delhi today, he said he is much impressed by the progress made by India in developing indigenous technology to accelerate the development process in the country. Peru has also to learn much from India in moral and spiritual fields.

Answering a question about the reported attack on the Indian Embassy in Lima, he described it as an act of a small group of rebels who would like to see a subservient colonial government in power in Peru. The worst thing, he said, for this group is that a socialist democratic government is in power which believes in economic redistribution. The Peruvian president declared that his government will not be driven into desperation and [word indistinct] by such acts. He said the problem has to be overcome through sustained patience. He described the terrorism as a universal phenomenon which has affected India, Peru, and others.

Replying to a question, he lashed out at the International Monetary Fund and such other financial institutions, which, he said, are working against the interests of developing countries. He said Peru has decided to pay only 10 percent of the value of its exports every year as foreign debts.

Army in 'Defensive' Position on Punjab Border

BK240303 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 24 Jan 87

[Text] Army formations in Punjab have taken up defensive positions along the western border as a response to Pakistan's deployment of its Army units in the forward areas. For sealing the border and for internal security purposes, Border Security Force battalions on the Punjab borders have been placed under the operational control of the Army.

Simultaneously, India has proposed to Pakistan a speedy mutual de-escalation by withdrawing the troops to their original positions. This was announced by a Defense Ministry spokesman in New Delhi. The Pakistan ambassador, Mr Mohammad Humayun Khan, was summoned to the Foreign Office by the

minister of state for external affairs, Mr Natwar Singh, and told of the action taken by India. The ambassadors of the Soviet Union and the United States in New Delhi have been informed of the development. While the external affairs minister, Mr N.D. Tiwari, spoke to the Soviet ambassador, Mr Nikolay [name as heard] Rykov; the minister of state for defense, Mr Arun Singh, spoke to the U.S. ambassaodr, Mr John Dean.

The cabinet committee on political affairs met twice in the last 2 days to take stock of the situation following the massing of troops by Pakistan along the Indian border.

The Defense Ministry spokesman said that if Pakistan does not respond to the proposal for speedy, mutual de-escalation, Indian troops may also have to take up defensive positions along Rajasthan and Jammu and Kashmir borders.

Readiness Expressed To Hold Talks

BK241601 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 24 Jan 87

[Text] The prime minister said that India would like to see the situation on the Indo-Pakistan border deescalated soon. An official spokesman told newsmen in New Delhi this evening that Mr Rajiv Gandhi had conveyed this to the Pakistan ambassador yesterday.

The spokesman said in consonnance with our general approach, India is ready to hold talks with Pakistan to deescalate the situation. The level, venue, and timing of such talks can be settled through the diplomatic channel.

The spokesman was asked to comment on a Pakistani statement which spoke of possible aggression against that country. He said he will like to state categorically that there is absolutely no question of India committing aggression or attacking Pakistan. India remains firmly committed to resolving issues with Pakistan bilaterally and peacefully in accordance with the letter and spirit of the Simla Agreement. India firmly believes that all issues between the two countries should be resolved peacefully through dialogue and discussion.

The spokesman recalled that the present situation has been created following considerable forward movement of the Pakistani Army formations from normal locations to near battle positions in different sectors of the Indo-Pakistan border. He said these movements have compelled India to take corresponding defensive measures that it considers necessary.

Curfew 'Clamped' on Border Areas

BK251245 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 25 Jan 87

[Text] In Jammu and Kashmir, night curfew has been clamped in the border areas of Jammu District with immediate effect. The ban on movement of people will be effective from 2100 to 0500 in 63 villages along the Indo-Pak border. According to a notification issued by the district magistrate of Jammu, the ban order has been issued in view of apprehension of subversive activities in the area. The orders will be in force for 1 month.

Acts Against Punjab 'Terrorists' Intensified

BK240453 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 24 Jan 87

[Text] In Punjab, the police and paramilitary forces have further intensified their operations against terrorists. The director general of the state police, Mr Ribeiro, said in Chandigarh that about 70 suspected terrorists were arrested last week. He said at least 10 of them were hard-coce terrorists. He said the morale of the police and paramilitary forces in the state is quite high and the battle against terrorists will be continued with renewed vigor.

Changes Reported in Sikh Committee Leadership

BK231639 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 23 Jan 87

[Text] The Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak [Sikh temple management] Committee [SGPC] has sacked two of the five head priests — Jathedar Harcharan Singh Mahalon of Sahib and Sant Lakhha Singh of Damdami Sahib.

The Executive Committee of the SGPC in Amritsar today also pointed Jathedar Kshmira Singh as head priest of Akal Takht [highest Sikh seat], Jathedar Surender Singh as head priest of Takht Kesgarh Sahib, and Jathedar Jaswant Singh (Chakharwal) as head priest of Takht Damdami Sahib. The changes are said to be a part of the process started with the appointment of Mr Tohra as president of the SGPC.

Sikhs Gather at Golden Temple

BK260654 Hong Kong AFP in English 0638 GMT 26 Jan 87

[Excerpts] Amritsar, India, Jan 26 (AFP) — Several thousand Sikhs gathered at the Golden Temple here Monday for a religious congregation called by militants battling for an independent homeland in the northern state of Punjab, eyewitnesses said. More than 6,000 Sikhs chanted ant-India slogans and burnt the national tricolour flag in the temple, the Sikhs' holiest shrine, the witnesses said.

Nearly 65 companies of para-military forces and more than 2,000 policemen were deployed in the border district of Amritsar Monday [to] prevent possible sabotage by militants as India celebrated its Republic Day, sources said.

Two suspected miliants shot dead a Hindu, Prem Kumar, at Addi village in the industrial district of Jullundur late Sunday, the *Press Trust of India* (PTI) reported.

The vociferous Sikh gathering at the Golden Temple Monday also raised slogans in support of Khalistar, the homeland militants are fighting for, evewitnesses said.

The meeting was called by the militant Damdami Taksal and the All India Sikh Students' Federation (AISSF) to endorse the

appointment of five new head priests to the temple. [passage omitted]

Monday's Golden Temple gathering was expected to condemn recent police entries into the Sikh shrine and a large-scale Army deployment on the border with Pakistan, militant sources told *Agence France-Presse*.

The religious congregation coincided with India's republic anniversary celebrations, which the Sikhs have been asked to boycott by militants who say the estimated 14-million-strong community is being "enslaved" by New Delhi. Sikh women have been told to wear black scarf and the menfolk black turbans and badges Monday. The official national day celebration is being observed in Amritsar District's Gandhi grounds amid tight security.

Resolution for Secession Read Out

NC261849 Paris AFP in English 1831 GMT 26 Jan 87

[Text] Amritsar, India, Jan 26 (AFP) — Thousands of Sikhs backed Sikh militants' demand for a separate state at a religious congregation here timed to coincide with India's Republic Day Monday.

Some 25,000 Sikhs in the gathering, summoned by two major militant groups at the Golden Temple, adopted a resolution endorsing the demand amid shouts of "Sikhs shall rule". The resolution, drafted by sponsors Damdami Taksal and the All India Sikh Students' Federation (AISSF), praised the April 29, 1986, declaration by a five-member militant committee on the "beginning of the battle" for Khalistan, the independent homeland Sikh separatists want in the Punjab.

Observers said Monday's assembly was the largest-ever in the Golden Temple, the holiest shrine of Sikhdom where nearly 650 died in a June 1984 Army action to flush out militants. Previous militant congregations on April 13 and November one had attracted less than 10,000 people.

Some 500 federal para-military troops stood guard outside the temple during the four-hour congregation attended by several top militants wanted by security forces in the troubled northern state. Hundreds of para-military Central Reserve Police and more than 2,000 other policemen fanned out all over Amritsar District Monday, India's 38th Republic Day, which was observed by militants as a "black day" to protest the alleged "enslaving" of Sikhs by New Delhi.

The militants hoisted the charred remains of the Indian national flag at half-a-dozen places. Bright saffron Khalistan flags — saffron being the colour for martyrdom in Sikhism — fluttered from atop a dozen buildings within the sprawling temple complex.

The resolution for secession read out by Damdami Taksal's Ajaib Singh, who has a price on his head, praised Sikh militants killed by security forces and vowed vengence on moderate Sikhs opposed to the separatist campaign.

Also present was Bimal Kaur Khalsa, widow of Beant Singh, slain assassin of former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, and Baba Joginder Singh, father of fundamentalist Sikh leader Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale who was killed in the 1984 Army action.

Meanwhile three people were reported killed in separatist-related violence in the Punjab in the past 24 hours, bringing the total number of deaths this month to 60.

Junejo Comments on Indian Troop Movements
BK241125 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 24 Jan 87

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo, has said that Pakistan is totally committed to peace in the region. He said this while addressing provincial ministers, senators, MNA's [Members of National Assembly] and MPA's [Members of provincial assemblies], ulema [scholars] and notables in Peshawar today. Some federal ministers were also present.

Referring to yesterday's announcement from India regarding the concentration of Indian troops on the Pakistani borders, the prime minister said Pakistan could, however, not remain silent and will react with all its might if a situation was imposed on it. He said that India has been informed of Pakistan's principles of peaceful coexistence. He hoped that the sentiments will be reciprocated by India and unnecessary tension will be removed. He reiterated that Pakistan is fully prepared to meet any eventuality.

Earlier, addressing a delegation of tribal elders in Peshawar this morning, the prime minister said that steps have been taken to eliminate frequent shelling and bombing of tribal areas by the Kabul regime's forces. He praised the patriotic spirit and sense of sacrifices of the tribal people. The tribal elders assured the prime minister of their full support to the government efforts to accelate the economic development of the tribal areas and its commitment to defend the national frontiers.

Says 'No Immediate' Security Danger
BK241533 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 24 Jan 87

[Text] Speaking to newsmen at Peshawar airport before his departure for Islamabad this evening, the prime minister said Pakistan has asked the Indian Government to pull back its forces to peacetime positions. When asked whether there is any danger to the security of the country the prime minister said there is no immediate danger at the present time.

In reply to a question, the prime minister said the first deputy foreign minister of the Soviet Union visited Pakistan recently and expressed his government's desire to solve the Afghanistan problem. The prime minister has since returned to Rawalpindi.

Informs Parliament of Situation
BK250827 Karachi Overseas Service in English
0800 GMT 25 Jan 87

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo, has said Pakistan's foreign policy, based on Islamic principles, enjoins upon us a policy of peace and friendship and we are opposed to all forms of aggression. He was addressing the joint session of the parliament in Islamabad this morning. He said Pakistan does not believe in interfering in the internal affairs of others and seeks friendly and cooperative relations with others. Pakistan adheres to a policy of peaceful coexistence, particularly with its neighbors and wants [words indistinct] cooperation with them. He said it is Pakistan's view that relations with our neighbors should be based on recognized international principles.

Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo said for creating an atmosphere of peace and stability it is necessary that the independence and sovereignty of each other be respected on the basis of equality. He said there should be no interference in each other's internal affairs and that regional peace and national frontiers be considered as inviolate.

Referring to the massive scale of the Indian military exercise close to Pakistan's border, he said an air of uncertainty and apprehension has prevailed since India embarked upon this exercise. He said the military exercises by themselves should not have caused undue alarm. He said it is normal for troops in India and also in Pakistan to conduct routine exercises in winter. The Indian plan for exercises this winter had some unusual aspects which could not but cause concern.

After the prime minister's speech, the speaker, Mr Hamid Nasser Chathe read the president's order to prolong the joint session of parliament.

National Assembly Views 'Amassing'
BK251637 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 25 Jan 87

[Excerpt] The National Assembly took up for discussion the amassing of troops by India on Pakistan's borders on a motion by the minister for justice and parliamentary affairs, Mr Wasim Sajjad, in Islamabad this evening. Taking part in the discussion, the members emphatically declared that though Pakistan is a peace-loving country and does not want conflicts in the region with a view to ensuring the welfare and economic well-being of its people, it will face the aggressors squarely and foil its nefarious designs with full force and vigor. They also underlined the need for greater unity and harmony in the life of the nation and called for promoting national integrity among people to thwart the designs of any potential aggressor. [passage omitted]

Missions Informed of 'Concentration'
BK241607 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 24 Jan 87

[Excerpts] Pakistan has asked its ambassador in New York to apprise the UN secretary general of the unprecedented massive troop concentration on Pakistan's borders. A Foreign Office spokesman said in Islamabad today that Pakistani missions in other countries have likewise been advised to apprise the respective governments of the situation arising out of these steps by India.

In reply to a question he said the Pakistan Government has apprised the anmbassadors of some countries in Islamabad of this situation. [passage omitted] Referring to the concentration of 11 divisions in addition to 5 independent brigades and armoured formations the Foreign Office spokesman said due to the concentration of so many forces near Pakistan's borders, India can

commit aggression — a fact which the Government of Pakistan cannot ignore.

Readiness Expressed for Negotiations

BK241029 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1000 GMT 24 Jan 87

[Text] A Foreign Office spokesman has said that Pakistan is ready to assure India that it does not desire or intend to escalate the crisis along its border with India, and it hopes that India will also give similar assurances. He told newsmen in Islamabad this afternoon that Pakistan is now awaiting India's response.

The Pakistan Army's director general of military operations talked with his Indian counterpart on a telephone hotline and proposed holding negotiations for defusing tension. He said in addition to the movement of the almost half of the Indian Armed Forces along the Pakistani border, 11 additional infantry divisions, 5 independent brigades, and other formations have been deployed along the Pakistani border, but there is no such concentration of Pakistani Armed Forces anywhere in response to this. The spokesman said Pakistani troops have not been alerted, while the Indian Armed Forces are on full alert.

Answering a question regarding India's demand to withdraw Pakistani troops to peace-time stations, the spokesman said the demand is unilateral, unjustified, and unacceptable, but Pakistan is ready to hold urgent negotiations with India on measures to end tension.

Envoy to India on Readiness

BK241626 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 24 Jan 87

[Text] Addressing a news conference in New Delhi this evening, the Pakistan ambassador, Dr Humayun Khan, said Pakistan is ready to enter into any form of consultations at any level with India to bring about a mutual deescalation of tension on the borders. He said Pakistan certainly does not want confrontation. Pakistan remains committed in its own as well as in the interest of the region to continue dialogue with India to normalize relations between the two countries.

Indian Talks Offer Reported

BK260136 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0100 GMT 26 Jan 87

[Text] India has invited Pakistan for secretary-level talks to end the border tension. Indian Minister of State for External Affairs Natwar Singh yesterday apprised Pakistani Ambassador to New Delhi Humayun Khan of this decision by India. The talks [words indistinct]. The Pakistani ambassador appreciated India's invitation and said that he will inform his government about this immediately.

President Mohammad Ziaul Haq and Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo have congratulated Indian President Giani Zail Singh and Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi on Indian Republic Day today.

In his message, the president expressed the hope that the two countries will succeed in achieving the common objective of establishing relations based on good-neighborliness and cooperation between them through their sincere efforts. He said that Pakistan, for its part, will continue to make sincere efforts for this objective. He expressed the belief that the success of this process will prove beneficial for the two countries' people and the peace and stability of the region.

Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo in his message expressed the hope that Pakistan and India will cooperate to promote mutual trust so as to accelerate the process of normalization of relations between the two countries. He said that Pakistan is committed to establishing relations between the two countries based on good-neighborliness, which is in the interest of the two countries and peace and stability of the region. The prime minister referred to his useful meeting with Rajiv Gandhi is Bangalore and said that he hopes that the process of dialogue to achieve the common objective of promoting better understanding and cooperation will continue.

Foreign Secretary To Attend Talks

BK261113 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 26 Jan 87

[Text] It was officially announced in Islamabad today that the foreign secretary, Mr Abdus Sattar, will pay an early visit to New Delhi for talks on the escalation of the present [border] tension. The dates are being worked out through diplomatic channels.

The senate today began discussion on the situation arising out of the massing of Indian troops on Pakistan borders. The minister for justice and parliamentary affairs, Mr Wasim Sajjad, who moved the motion in this regard, said this has created a situation, which has caused concern. Nine members took part in the discussion today. They said with complete faith in Almighty Allah, Pakistan can effectively face any aggression. They also stressed the imperative need for national unity at this hour.

The senate will now meet on Thursday at 1730.

Commentary Urges Consultations

BK241705 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 24 Jan 87

[Hussain Haqani commentary]

[Text] India's decision to seal the Punjab border and put its Armed Forces on a red alert has once again created tension in South Asia. The Indian moves are said to be in response to Pakistan's routine military exercises which are taking place far from the forward positions and about which Pakistan informed the Indian Government in accordance with normal diplomatic procedure. The latest Indian mobilization along the border comes while Indian forces are themselves engaged in a massive exercise of unprecedented proportion.

When India started these exercises code named "Brass Tacks", Pakistan was alarmed by Indian's failure to give prior information about such large scale troops movement. However, Pakistan handled the matter diplomatically. Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo discussed the matter with Indian Prime Ministger Rajiv Gandhi at the SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] summit in Bangalore and accepted his assurances that India did not intend to commit aggression against Pakistan.

In case of Pakistan's exercises, there is no justification for Indian concern at all. Unlike India, Pakistan has informed its neighbor about the exercises beforehand. The exercises are taking place away from the border and do not involve the massive number of troops or large quantities of equipment involved in India's operation "Brass Tacks". The Indian decision to put its forces on red alert has unnecessarily increased tension on the border. It runs contrary to India's avowed policy of promoting peace, and legitimately fuels Pakistani fears of possible aggression against its territory. Despite these legitimate fears, Pakistan has refused to act hastily or precipitously.

Although the massing of Indian troops along the border causes concern, Pakistan's response has been to propose consultation to de-escalate tension. Such consultations would enable both countries to devise measures for reverting the situation to normal. Pakistan's proposals are in keeping with its overall policy of normalization of relations with India. It is Pakistan's desire to end mutual suspicion and promote good neighborly relations with India. Pakistan's proposals for a no-war pact and its pursuit of improvement of bilateral ties are all reflection of Pakistan's friendly intentions.

Given the recent history of Pakistan's continued search for peace and normalcy, there is no justification for Indian doubts about Pakistan's desire for tension-free relations. Indeed, if India is also desirous of pursuing a policy of good neighborly relations it should accept Pakistan's offer of talks for de-esclation of tension. Pakistan poses no threat whatsoever to India's security and would certainly appreciate assurances that India's troop movements do not reflect aggressive intentions.

Immediate consultations at this stage would not only contribute to restoring normalcy on the Indo-Pakistan border, they would also help improve the overall relationship between the South Asian countries.

Opposition Leader Reported Under House Arrest

BK240319 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 24 Jan 87

[Text] In Pakistan, the prominent opposition leader, Mr Abdul Wali Khan, is placed under house arrest. According to police sources, Mr Wali Khan was planning to leave for Badin in Sind Province to offer his condolences for his murdered party colleague, Mr Fazil Rahu. Last month Mr Wali Khan was also banned from visiting the province.

Meanwhile, Mr Altaf Hussain and six other leaders of the Qaumi Muhajir Movement have been released. They were arrested in October last, which triggered off ethnic riots [in Karachi]. The Sind chief minister, Mr Syed Ghaus Ali Shah, told newsmen in Islamabad that he would contact all political parties in a bid to restore normalcy in the affected areas.

Khamene'i Sermon on 'Historic' Operations
LD231329 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 23 Jan 87

[Text] Friday prayers venues throughout the country today have witnessed congregations of faithful, committed worshippers. The religious-political Friday prayer rites were held at Tehran University and the surrounding thoroughfares in the presence of the Hezbollahi Islamic Nation and under the imamate of Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i in Tehran today.

In his Friday prayers sermon Tehran's Friday imam referred to the continued glorious victories scored by Islam's combatants during the "Karbala'-5" and "Karbala'-6" offensives. expounding on the sensitive and strategic position of the "Karbala'-5" operational theater and the numerous fortifications set up by the enemy in that area to bar the way to the onslaught by Islam's combatants, Tehran's Firday imam said: Both Saddam and the protectors of the Iraqi Zionist regime know that if Basra should fall, the Iraqi regime would fall; therefore, all their forces' combat engineering and supply capabilities were massed around Basra. Our combatants, by penetrating and putting behind them all these obstacles, delivered a deadly blow to the Iraqi regime. At present, in addition to encircling the Iraqi forces in that area, our forces have turned the place into a slaughterhouse for the forces of the Iraqi regime.

The chairman of the Supreme Defense Council added: According to statistics at our disposal, 20 percent of Saddam's forces in that area have been totally destroyed and some 50-60 percent of the forces of that regime have suffered terrible blows, rendering their restructuring extremely difficult. We hope that, by continuing these operations, we will destroy the very remnants of these enemy forces.

Emphasizing the obliteration of the Iraqi regime, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Khamene'i said: Though our forces are currently at the gates of Basra, our aim is not Basra and Iraqi soil; rather, our objective is to wipe out the warmongering Iraqi regime. As long as this regime exists on the scene and as long as the regional nations are not convinced that this would be the fate of all aggressors, we shall continue to deliver our blows! Our objective is to realize right and justice. We are after justice, and as long as this injustice imposed on our nation is not wiped out, we shall not abandon our efforts.

Saying that after Saddam the Iraqi people themselves would be able to choose the type of their own government, the president of the Republic expressed the hope that the Iraqi people would make use of the opportunity created by Islam's combatants and Iran's intrepid young men for the overthrow of the tyrannical Iraqi regime.

Continuing his sermon, Tehran's Friday imam referred to Saddam's reaction in bombing our cities and population centers arising from that regime's weakness in confronting Islam's combatants on the fronts. Giving statistics on the losses and casualties resulting from aerial bombings, he said: During these 15 days Iraq raided 29 of the country's cities and dropped bombs on the heads of our innocent people. This is in addition to the cities subjected to aggression without being bombed from the air. These raids have been repeated 96 times; moreover, 29 missiles were fired at Iranian cities in 17 instances. The outcome of these crimes is the martyrdom of 1,776 and the wounding of 6,163 as well as the destruction of 1,390 housing and commercial units and 2 universities and 9 schools, 2 of which were schools for handicapped children. Out of eight city hospitals bombed, three were totally destroyed, and five have been damaged.

In the same connection the chairman of the Supreme Defense Council said: The mass media do not announce these frightful statistics, but enthusiastically report from their mouthpieces the launching of five missiles by the Islamic Republic of Iran at Baghdad at a time when the firing of these missiles was tantamount to tit-for-tat and was aimed as a deterrent to the Iraqi regime's crimes.

Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Khamene'i then referred to Saddam's impotent message to the Iranian nation and said: On the day when Saddam had power and turned our country's soil into a parade ground for his forces, he never mentioned peace, nor did he permit any Arab government to act as an intermediary in the war. However, today, he is begging the Iranian nation with his impotent message. Today we tell him that the Iranian people are determined to continue the battle until the incendiarist is overthrown. We tell him: If you have any compassion in your heart for the situation of the Iraqi people, give up power and surrender to justice so that the Iranian and Iraqi peoples, who have lived side by side as brothers for centuries, can continue their lives!

Tehran's Friday imam also referred to the convening of the Islamic Conference in Kuwait. Expressing regret, he said: Just as we prognosticated, Kuwait, by its obstinacy, dealt a big blow at the Islamic Conference. I declare that Iran shall not take part in this conference at any level!

In conclusion, the president of the Republic considered the "Karbala'-5" operations a historic event for our nation and Islam. Thanking all those involved — the combatants, the jihad wagers, the Army troops, those of the corps, our Air Force, the Army aviation force, the Khatem engineering headquarter, newsmen and film-makers — he emphasized: If these operations continue, the Iraqi regime's back shall undoubtedly be broken!

Foreign Ministry 'Condemns' Reagan Statement
LD241756 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 24 Jan 87

[Text] In the wake of the publication of an official statement by Ronald Reagan, expressing clear support for Iraq, the Foreign Ministry today issued the following statement: The outstanding victories achieved by the Islamic Republic forces in recent operations, which have pushed the Saddam regime to the edge of the precipice and which are about to decide the fate of the war, God willing, through a final offensive, have caused great anxiety to the Iraqi regime and its supporters. In the midst of all this, the United States, one of the major supporters of the Iraqi regime which encouraged it to start the war and continued to provide it with financial, political, and intelligence support, has been experiencing more apprehension about the recent victories achieved by

Iran. As a result, having issued a statement, the United States has tried to condemn the offensives, calling for a settlement of the dispute through negotiations.

Apart from the fact that the statement shows the collaboration of East and West in supporting the declining Saddam regime in its abortive aggression against the Islamic Republic of Iran, it also points to Saddam's serious and grave situation as well as his imminent collapse. Consequently, the situation has led the United States to resort to a threat of intervention and thus attempt to secure and safeguard its interests in the Persian Gulf.

The Islamic Republic of Iran, while declaring it does not wish to escalate the war in the region, and that its objective is to punish the aggressor and defend its rights, points out that the security of the Persian Gulf is the responsibility of the regional states. Therefore, such support expressed by arrogant powers, including the United States, for the Saddam regime will result in no conclusive effect as far as the war is concerned; rather, they would only serve to exacerbate the tension in the region and prolong the war. As they demonstrated through 6 years of sacred defense, the Islamic combatants shall have the final say on all fronts, despite the support expressed by all satanic powers for the Saddam regime. As for the United States, although it succeeded in imposing an unwanted war on the Islamic Republic of Iran through its agents, it will be unable to impose a denigrating peace on us.

Having strongly condemned the statement issued by Reagan, the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran declares that the battlefield shall not experience any tranquility as long as the Saddam regime survives. It adds: If the United States truly wishes to see an end to the war, then all it has to do is to stop supporting Iraq and halt its military, armament, and intelligence assistance to Iraq.

Remarks Aim To Conceal U.S. 'Defeat'

LD251443 Tehran IRNA in English 1436 GMT 25 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 25, IRNA — Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani here Sunday condemned recent statements of U.S. President Ronald Reagan on the Iraqi imposed war. Speaking at the open session of the Majlis, Rafsanjani stressed that Reagan's remarks were aimed at concealing the defeat the U.S. has suffered in its rapprochement attempt with Iran as well as domestic problems besetting the Reagan administration.

The Majlis speaker also said that the recent war victories of Iran's Muslim forces had added a new element to the global political equations, and that President Reagan's warning to Iran would further complicate the issue. He said it is noteworthy that the U.S. President would issue a personal statement about seven years after the Iraqi imposed war in the course of which, he said, the Baghdad regime has perpetrated all manners of atrocities.

Hoj. Rafsanjani said it is at the same time deplorable for the Islamic world that Mr Reagan terms himself a supporter of Muslim countries against the Islamic Republic who "will not allow aggressions against his allies." It is a disgrace for Muslim that the U.S. has "allies" in this region, Rafsanjani said, adding that what is more disgraceful is that these countries have not responded to being labeled "allies" by Reagan and have kept silence vis-a-vis his remarks.

Rafsanjani who is also Imam Khomeyni's representative to the Supreme Defence Council, asked "What business does the U.S. have in the Persian Gulf region? And whose vital interests does it refer to, seeing that the oil belongs to the countries of the region who will sell it at whatever price they wish."

Asked Rafsanjani "Is the security of the Persian Gulf more important for us or the U.S.? How is it they are more concerned about the Persian Gulf than we are (regional countries)?" Rafsanjani noted. Why, Rafsanjani queried, was the U.S. not concerned about the security of the Persian Gulf when it instigated the Baghdad regime to begin the war seven years ago?

On Reagan's warning to the Islamic Republic not to spread the war, Rafsanjani said Iran has all along prevented it from spreading and that it has done so with the utmost restraint. Since the outbreak of the war seven years ago, he added, Iran has advised small states in the region to remain neutral, which act proves the Islamic Republic never intended to spread the war.

Hoj. Rafsanjani said it is in fact U.S. adventurism in the region that incites regional countries to get involved in the war. He called on the U.S. to admonish these countries not to involve themselves in the war in which case, he said, "we can have sincere relations and brotherly cooperation with them." The Majlis speaker said the issue had nothing to do with the U.S.. "Is it of any concern to you that you are issuing warnings every day?" Rafsanjani asked. "You made a mistake (in your efforts to come closer to Iran) and were deceived by the (arms) brokers in thinking that Iran would shake hands with you in order to secure material concessions."

The U.S. President's statement negated his previous remarks that Iran is an important country, that the U.S. should establish ties with it, that the U.S. recognizes Iran's strategic importance, and that Iran is not a supporter of terrorism. "Now it is clear that your policy has no foundation." "You were either telling lies yesterday or lying today," the Majlis speaker said. Moreover, he added, the statements further disclose the absurdity of allegations that U.S. had sold arms to Iran, because if those claims were true the U.S. should now be happy.

The Majlis speaker reiterated that the Islamic Republic of Iran would maintain security in the Persian Gulf region. He also advised the regional states to clarify their stands while there was still time to do so. He furthermore called on them not to support an element (Iraq) which had inflicted losses on both the Iranian and Iraqi peoples.

U.S. 'Lack of Realism' Discussed

LD241418 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1055 GMT 24 Jan 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] This morning the Voice of America broadcast U.S. President Reagan's statement on the imposed war. It appears that this is Mr Reagan's most important statement regarding the imposed war. In this statement, which is the first international official and serious move of U.S. foreign policy after the McFarlane disgrace, Reagan referred to the following points:

1. The resistance of the Iranian nation in the imposed war threatens U.S. strategic interests and also threatens the stability and security of U.S. puppets in the region, such as King Husayn of Jordan and the occupying Qods regime.

2. The United States does not want Iran to be victorious in the war and does not want Saddam's regime to be defeated.

3. Reagan has condemned the advance of Islam's forces in the defensive battle against Iraqi positions.

4. Reagan has termed any expansion of the war a great threat against U.S. interests, and he is determined to secure the free flow of oil via the Strait of Hormuz.

5. Reagan has decisively promised support to those regimes affiliated with the United States, and he has implictly expressed the hope that the heads of such regimes will not experience the same fate as Al-Sadat, Somoza, and Numayri.

In this statement, however, Mr Reagan has not addressed the following points:

1. Iraq's aggression against the Islamic Republic of Iran, which was carried out with U.S. encouragement, has been defeated.

2. From the start of Saddam's aggression against the Islamic Republic of Iran, the United States has, in practice, supported a victory for the aggressor and has not refrained from any actions leading to this objective.

3. The U.S. militarist policy in the region has come face to face with the wounded feelings of Muslim nations.

4. By placing resources at Iraq's disposal so that it could attack Khark Island and oil tankers, the United States has in practice tried to render the Strait of Hormuz waterway insecure.

Generally, we may come to the following conclusion from Reagan's statement:

1. Reagan does not deserve to be U.S. President because any person who heads a superpower should have the strength to maintain his political balance.

2. The U.S. policies have themselves exposed the nature of the United States. Only yesterday the United States claimed that it had sold arms to Iran. Now it is declaring officially that Iran's victory in the imposed war will jeopardize the stability and security of America's friends; that is, Jordan and Israel.

3. Although U.S. political propaganda is massive in quantity, it nevertheless lacks a specific strategy and demonstrates the confusion and profound helplessness of U.S. officials. This feeling of helplessness will probably cause disillusionment and despondency to most of the moderate Arab countries.

According to the opinions of political commentators and specialists on the Persian Gulf region, Reagan will only be able to restore the political equilibrium of U.S. foreign policy if he takes note of the following points:

1. Reagan should try to increase his own sense of realism and that of the White House and to give up the forlorn hope of confronting the Islamic Revolution.

2. America's bosses should abandon their support for Saddam's regime because the longer it takes to obliterate Saddam from the region's political scene, the more insecure the region will become since Saddam's fall is inevitable with the advances made by Islam's combatants.

3. Washington should stop its unilateral support of Arab reactionaries and pawns such as King Husayn and should stop betting on a handful of gamblers who faint at the sound of a firecracker and are drunkedly gambling over the destiny of their countries. For instance, in this very statement, Reagan has termed the Persian Gulf merely the gulf. In this way he wants to deny historical truths. He has unwittingly displayed his enmity toward Islam since, the name Persian Gulf, which refers to the role of Salaman-e Farsi, the great companion of the prophet of Islam, has always been historically the Persian Gulf. This has a very deep historical root.

4. Without doubt, if America's bosses were to be a little realistic, peace and stability would be within reach, and the Palestinian nation, by destroying Zionism, will achieve its just right. However, the U.S. lack of realism may expand tension in the world's five continents.

IRNA Comments on ICO 'Contradictions'

LD251639 Tehran IRNA in English 1624 GMT 25 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 25, IRNA — The preliminary session of the Kuwait hosted conference earlier this week further revealed the contradictions between the policies of the organization of the Islamic Conference and the principles on which the organization has been founded. Generally speaking, the objective of the fifth OIC summit in Kuwait can be rightly described as an effort to link the OIC members with the disgraceful Camp David accord.

Meanwhile, during the two-day preliminary meeting, the reactionary regimes in following this inauspicious policy, tried to overshadow the role of the progressive countries in the Kuwait conference.

In the meeting held Thursday and Friday to prepare the agenda for the fifth summit meet, most of the proposals forwarded by the progressive states were rejected. Syrian proposals to discuss the illegitimate return of Egypt to the OIC, its denunciation of the Camp David accord, its condemnation of Egypt and Morocco for establishing relations with the Zionist regime and receiving the Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres, as well as a condemnation of Iraq for deploying internationally banned chemical weapons in the war against Iran, were all rejected for inclusion in the agenda of the conference, according to a Kuwaiti spokesman for the conference.Meanwhile, a proposal by Libya that the Chad issue should not be discussed in the summit meet was also denied, the spokesman added.

The Kuwait conference as described by the press in Iran, in fact aims at intermingling the OIC with the Camp David accord. And it is for this reason that Husni Mubarak with his Camp David accord, is the first head of state to arrive in Kuwait even two days before the convening of the summit. It is also why Mubarak is welcomed so warmly by the Kuwaiti rulers who have expressed hope that Egypt will soon return to the Arab political fold.

Saddam's Nonattendance Viewed

LD252213 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 25 Jan 87

[Text] According to a Central News Unit dispatch from Beirut, Saddam's refusal to attend the summit in Kuwait has aroused the suspicion of political observers. These observers believe that Iraq might, during the Kuwaiti summit, attack the summit venue in order to drag the superpowers into the imposed war, to make the war an international problem, and in order to reduce the pressure on the Iraqi Armed Forces. Therefore, Saddam's decision not to take part in this summit has been made for security reasons. [sentence as heard]

Political observers believe that if Iraq resorts to such an action, it will blame Iran in order to win greater support of the superpowers. It is necessary to point out that two Iranian Phantom jets, which were hijacked by the monafeqins [Mojahedin-e Khalq], are now kept at a base near Basra.

On the other hand, the Central News Unit reports that at the same time as the Islamic summit in Kuwait, that country has increased its import of expensive alcoholic drinks. It is said that the committee in charge of supplying the requirements of the summit is buying these expensive alcoholic drinks from an Italian company in order to please some of the participants and particularly those who are not Muslims but Jewish, such as Mikhail Yuhanna 'Aziz [Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi foreign minister] who is attending the summit.

Communiques Summarize Combat Operations

Khatem ol-Anbiya' No 22

LD271142 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Jan 87

[Communique No 22 of Khatem ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, center of joint operations of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. O self-sacrificing nation. The brave and combative forces of Islam, continuing their proud operations in the Karbala'-5 sector last night achieved outstanding victories.

During the operation our mighty forces attacked the Zionist forces, crushing their defensive lines in the sector, advancing deep inside enemy positions and liberating 2 further kilometers of the important Basra-Shalamcheh road and bringing it under their control.

During the operation, the forces of Islam inflicted heavy casualties on four Iraqi brigades and completely destroyed two battalions of the 81st Infantry Brigade, a battalion of the 105th Brigade and a battalion of the Commando Brigade attached to the Iraqi Armed Forces High Command. Following a heavy clash, they captured the command base of Iraq's 45th Brigade.

During the operation, the combatants of Islam killed or wounded 1,200 forces of the aggressor regime of Iraq and captured several of them. Dozens of officers, including high-ranking Iraqi officers and a number of commanders of the 81st and 501st Brigades, are among the dead. Also, dozens of tanks and personnel carriers and a large number of enemy military vehicles were destroyed by the forces of Islam.

Some of the enemy forces in the operational theater, which have been besieged by the forces of Islam, are about to be completely annihilated. While bringing enemy assembly points and equipment under heavy tank and artillery fire, the combatants of Islam are consolidating the new positions that they liberated last night.

Joint Staff No 2,725

LD231700 Tehran IRNA in English 1620 GMT 22 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 23, IRNA — Scores of civilians were martyred and wounded in the latest Iraqi bombing of residential areas of Esfahan, Tabriz, Dezful, and the holy city of Qom Friday, said a military communique here. Communique Number 2,725 released by the Joint Staff Command of Iran's Armed Forces said that Iranian jet fighters heavily bombed economic and industrial centers of the northeastern Iraqi city of Raniyah at 05:09 GMT Friday and returned safely to bases.

Two mid-range surface-to-surface Iranian missiles were fired at eco-military centers of Basra at 02:00 and 03:00 hours Friday (10:30 and 11:00 GMT Thursday) while another mid-range missile hit oil installations of Banmil at 08:30 hours (05:00 GMT) Friday.

In the western fronts, Iranian forces continued to annihilate Iraqi troops in the Karbala'-6 operational theater in Sumar region, gaining new victories. Iranian jet fighters also pounded positions, tanks, and vehicles of Iraqi troops in the theater at about 06:30 GMT Friday. The fighters returned safely to bases.

The Joint Staff communique said that one Iraqi fighter bomber was shot down by an Iranian surface-to air missile in areas overlooking Sumar at 12:45 hours (09:15 GMT) Friday.

Iranian long range artillery fire hit eco-military centers of the Iraqi cities of Sulaymaniyah, Halabjah, Irbil, Seyyid Sadiq, and Khurmal Thursday inflicting heavy casualties and losses on the enemy.

Iraqi forces sustained heavy casualties and losses and their military operations were disrupted in Nahr-e Anbar and Zobeydah theaters, southern fronts, Friday as their armoured units and vehicle columns were shelled by heavy Iranian artillery fire.

Iran's Gendarmerie forces opened heavy fire on Iraqi positions in parts of the southern and western fronts on Thursday inflicting substantial casualties and losses on Iraqi troops in each front.

Movement of Iraqi vehicle columns and reconnaissance flights of enemy helicopters were checked in Mehran and Helaleh, western fronts, Thursday, the communique concluded.